

25 February 1965

MEMORANDUM for the Record

AT *ph*
AT Attention:

Subject : Evaluation of Proposal on Literature Searches
Related to the Image Analysis Task.

In the area of physiological/psychometric criteria for image analysis, there has been an obvious gap -- primarily because of the workload and the consequent time element -- in our use of past research and research references prior to launching into a new study. We don't cover ourselves as substantially as we should if we had the time.

X1 The proposal is more than appealing. There are, however, two major studies on their way to being contracted which fall into this area and which will both require comprehensive literature searches preliminary to the actual investigations. Both searches will together cover a substantial area on vision and the human visual system. The searches are mandatory but the report of relevant material will be concise. Furthermore, we must keep in mind that these searches will be performed by companies who are really interested in promoting their own effort for us in similar areas, and we have given the bidders the alternative of disputing the value of accomplished research which proves to overlap their proposed work. This factor might lead to a one-sided evaluation of the usefulness of the body of past research.

However, it is particularly in this area that we need to be intimately knowledgeable about all relevant research, for we obviously have further interest in this realm and envision further application of its data.

Nevertheless, literature searches as such are not worth the effort unless they can be performed by researchers who can not only search out the information but also review it selectively with the full benefits of SI and materials' clearances and also recommend useful applications. This sort of a survey would give us a far more lucid idea of what areas remain untouched and untapped.

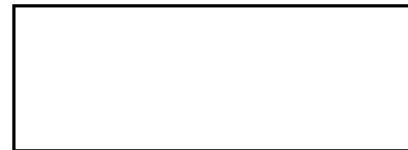
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Declass Review by NGA.

I feel, on the other hand, that we're pretty familiar with the pertinent work done in human factors/ P. I. performance -- if only as a result of establishing background for and defending the present [] in-house effort. Again, though, we need to subscribe to a service which would keep us informed of the latest research in this area, as it is turned out.

The following suggestions would seem to the point at this time:

1. We might well take up [] on their proposal -- with certain modifications.
2. [] odd dollars is an awesome sum for such work. I suggest we talk them down to some figure around [] for a comprehensive search in the specified areas (excluding human factors/P.I. performance and including vision/fatigue/illumination, etc.)
3. An alternative approach is to fund an open-end deal with an immediate task consisting of a search in the vision/fatigue/illumination area. The second general task would require them to keep us constantly informed of new work and new company or university capabilities in any of these areas.



development branch